PROCEEDINGS
of
THE TRAVANCORE SRI MULAM ASSEMBLY.

THIRD ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION—1946/1121.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

Wednesday, the 31st July 1946/15th Karkadagom 1121.

The Assembly met at 11 A. M. in the Legislative Chamber, Public Offices, with the Deputy-President in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN.

The following members took the oath and signed the Rolls :—

1. Mr. George Mathew (*Anchal Superintendent.*)
2. Mr. Kainikkara M. Padmanabha Pillai (*Secretary to Government.*)
3. Mr. H. C. Papworth (*Pro-Vice-Chancellor.*) *and*
4. Mr. N. Ramamurti (*Director of State Transport.*)

(At this stage the Dewan-President occupied the Chair.)

PRESIDENT : I apologise to the House for being late.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Mr. J. H. Cousins.

290. *MR. K. A. MATHEW (*Tiruvalla*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what is the nature of the work done for the State by Mr. J. H. Cousins, the Art Adviser to Government;

(*b*) how many days he spent in Travancore as Art Adviser in 1120 and in 1121;

(*c*) the number of lectures he delivered in these years and the places where they were delivered; and

(*d*) the emoluments given to him by the Government and by the University?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Dr. J. H. Cousins advises Government in matters concerning the collection, purchase and arrangement of objects of Art in the Museums and galleries which have been created and renovated under his supervision. He is also utilised for enquiring as to and procuring rare and valuable objects from outside Travancore for the art-institutions. He also gives lectures, singly and in series, inside the State in pursuance of Governmen'ts desire to spread knowledge of the arts among the people, and outside the State in making the arts and crafts of Travancore known. He advises

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Government in regard to art in education, and served on the recent Syllabus Committee under the Education Reorganisation Committee. He also writes on the arts and crafts of the State.

(*b*) Dr. Cousin's official attendance in Travancore is 63 days in three visits of 21 days each. Usually he spends a further 7 days, during each visit, in Travancore.

(*c*) Statistics are not available.

(*d*) Dr. Cousins is receiving an honorarium of Rs. 350 per month, out of which Rs. 100 is being given by the University.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: In answer to part (a), it is said "he also gives lectures singly and in series, inside the State—and outside the State" and answer to part (c) says "statistics are not available" in answer to my question "the number of lectures he delivered in these years and the places where they were delivered." May I know how this discrepancy has occurred?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: There is no discrepancy.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: My question was, the number of lectures he delivered and the places where they were delivered and the answer is that no statistics are available. May I know why statistics are not available?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: There is no particular reason.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether Government have no record of the lectures delivered by Dr. Cousins when he is in Travancore; whether the University does not keep a record of the lectures delivered by him?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: The lectures are not confined to the State only. It is delivered outside also.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know the number of lectures delivered within the State?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: That question was not put originally and hence not answered.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: Yes, it was asked. "The number of lectures he delivered and the places where they were delivered".

MR. KANIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: The number includes lectures delivered both inside and outside the State.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: May I know whether he is paid for delivering lectures both inside and outside the State?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Yes.

PRESIDENT: Dr. Cousins is an international authority on Art. It is a privilege for the State to have his services for the purpose of replenishing our Art Gallery and for giving advice on art matters. It is my honest opinion that the State has saved about Rs. 2 lakhs by his retention. If honourable members want to know in what position he is held, they will have only to go to London or Paris and find out exactly in what esteem he is held in the Art world

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in those places. He was an officer in Japan for 11 years under the Japanese Government and they gave him Rs. 2,000 and odd and treated him as a State Guest for all those years. He was Professor of Fine Arts there. When you get a man of that kind on a monthly salary of Rs. 350—it is out of regard for Their Highness that he is serving here—this question is neither in consonance with the dignity of this House nor adequately appreciative of the kind of person we are having to deal with.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: I take exception to the President's remarks.

PRESIDENT: I must certainly consider these questions most improper.

MR. K. A. MATHEW: The question is not in what esteem Dr. Cousins is held in Japan or in any other place. The question is whether we get service from him commensurate with the money that we pay.

May I know how many articles were written by Dr. Cousins on Art either inside or outside the State?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: I have no information.

MR. P. O. THOMAS (*Kunnatnad* cum *Parur*): May I know the number of bass reliefs collected by him?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: It is a long list.

PRESIDENT: If the honourable members want to have an idea they may go and see them in the Rengavilasom Art Gallery or in the Museum. Honourable members should know what the Museum was 10 years ago and what it is now. It has now got the biggest collection of bronzes in South India which means that next to the Museum in Paris and the British Museum it has the biggest collection of representative bronzes. The exhibits in the Art Gallery and the Picture Gallery in Chitralayam are entirely the collection of Dr. Cousins. It is now acknowledged throughout the world as the biggest representative collection of Indian paintings in the world. In Rengavilasom Art Gallery you will find a collection of Egyptian and Chinese sculptures. They have all cost the State and their Highnesses personally, something in the neighbourhood of Rs. 5 to 7 lakhs. Representative collections of Nepal, Chinese and Japanese paintings are there. There are a thousand specimens in the Rengavilasom Art Gallery.

MR. P. M. VARGHESE (*Minachil* cum *Thodupuzha*): The question refers to the services rendered to Travancore by Dr. Cousins because money is paid from Travancore.

PRESIDENT: Is Chitralayam in Travancore, is the museum in Travancore, is the Rengavilasom Art Gallery in Travancore; or is it elsewhere?

MR. P. M. VARGHESE: The question refers to the services rendered to Travancore. It requires only common sense to understand it.

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MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI (*Mavelikara* cum *Kunnathur*): Is Dr. Cousins attached to any other Government in India or any University?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: I do not know if he is attached. He is advising several States.

PRESIDENT: He is now advising the Hyderabad Government and the Mysore Government. He was formerly advising two or three other Governments.

MR. T. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Neyyattinkara* cum *Trivandrum*): May I know whether the Government of Travancore exercise any sort of control over his work in Travancore?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: It is not exactly a work which requires control. What Government require is advice on matters of Art and whenever occasion arose, his advice was sought and Government have been considerably benefited by it.

MR. P. O. THOMAS: May I know from the member whether he made any effort to know from Dr. Cousins or from any other source about the number of lectures he delivered in Travancore?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: There was no occasion. The question did not ask for the number of lectures he delivered in Travancore. The question was "the number of lectures he delivered and the places where they were delivered" and the answer is that "he gives lectures not only in Travancore but outside also and that therefore the information now asked for was not collected."

Lodging for the Muslim Students.

291. *MR. P. S. MAHOMED (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that the Muslim students who come to Trivandrum from outside the capital experience great hardships in securing proper lodging within the city?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Government are not aware of any special difficulties in the case of Muslim students.

MR. P. S. MOHAMED : ഗവണ്മെൻറ് ഹോസ്റ്റലിൽ അഡ്മിഷൻ കിട്ടുന്നതിലേക്കു എത്ര മുസ്ലിങ്ങൾ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: ൧൪ പേർ അപേക്ഷിച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

MR. P. S. MAHOMED : അതിൽ എത്രപേർക്കു അഡ്മിഷൻ കിട്ടി?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI. ൩൭ പേർക്ക്.

MR. K. A. MAHOMED (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Is there any special mess for Muslim students in the University Hostel?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: No, Sir.

MR. K. K. CHELLAPPAN PILLAI: Is the Government aware that there is not sufficient accommodation for the students in the City in the Government hostels inclusive of Hindus, Muslims and Christians?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: That does not arise.

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